

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for regulating use of a telephone line, comprising:

detecting an identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

only allowing use of said telephone line by said caller if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said caller identity is currently allowed.

2. The method for regulating use according to claim 1, wherein detecting an identity further comprises:

detecting said identity of said caller from a voice authentication.

3. The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting an estimated time for a call requested by said caller; and

filtering said schedule according to said estimated time for said call.

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4. The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting a subject for a call requested by said caller; and

filtering said schedule according to said subject for said call.

5. The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting an amount of points available to said caller for placing a call; and

filtering said schedule according to said amount of points available for said call and an amount of points required for at least one portion of said schedule.

6. The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

controlling output of a message to said caller indicating at least one from among a reason for a blocking said telephone line, a next available time for use of said telephone line, and an amount of time available for use of said telephone line.

7. The method for regulating use according to claim 1, further comprising:

providing said caller with an option for reserving a call appointment in said schedule.

8. A system for regulating use of a telephone line, comprising:

a telephone line for enabling communication via a communication system;

means for detecting an identity of a caller requesting use of said telephone line; and

means for only allowing use of said telephone line by said caller if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said caller identity is currently allowed.

9. The system for regulating use according to claim 8, wherein said means for detecting an identity further comprises:

means for detecting said identity of said caller from a voice authentication.

10. The system for regulating use according to claim 8, further comprising:

means for detecting an estimated time for a call requested by said caller; and

means for filtering said schedule according to said estimated time for said call.

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11. The system for regulating use according to claim 8, further comprising:

means for detecting a subject for a call requested by said caller; and

means for filtering said schedule according to said subject for said call.

12. The system for regulating use according to claim 8, further comprising:

means for detecting an amount of points available to said caller for placing a call; and

means for filtering said schedule according to said amount of points available for said call and an amount of points required for at least one portion of said schedule.

13. The system for regulating use according to claim 8, further comprising:

means for controlling output of a message to said caller indicating at least one from among a reason for a blocking said telephone line, a next available time for use of said telephone line, and an amount of time available for use of said telephone line.

14. The system for regulating use according to claim 8, further comprising:

means for providing said caller with an option for reserving a call appointment in said schedule.

15. A program for regulating use of a telephone line, comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an identity of a caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for only allowing use of said telephone line by said caller if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said caller identity is currently allowed.

16. The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting said identity of said caller from a voice authentication.

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17. The program for regulating use according to claim 15,
further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an estimated time for a call requested by said caller; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for filtering said schedule according to said estimated time for said call.

18. The program for regulating use according to claim 15,
further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting a subject for a call requested by said caller; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for filtering said schedule according to said subject for said call.

19. The program for regulating use according to claim 15,
further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an amount of points available to said caller for placing a call; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for filtering said schedule according to said amount of points available for said call and an amount of points required for at least one portion of said schedule.

20. The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for controlling output of a message to said caller indicating at least one from among a reason for a blocking said telephone line, a next available time for use of said telephone line, and an amount of time available for use of said telephone line.

21. The program for regulating use according to claim 15, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for providing said caller with an option for reserving a call appointment in said schedule.

22. A method for regulating use of a telephone line requested by a plurality of parties, comprising:

detecting an identity of a first caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

comparing said identity of said first caller with a schedule for at least one other caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

only allowing said first caller use of said telephone line if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said first caller currently has priority for use of said telephone line.

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23. The method for regulating use of a telephone line according to claim 9, further comprising:

controlling said telephone line from a private switching network.

24. A system for regulating use of a telephone line requested by a plurality of parties, comprising:

a telephone line for enabling communication via a communication system;

means for detecting an identity of a first caller requesting use of said telephone line; and

means for comparing said identity of said first caller with a schedule for at least one other caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

means for only allowing said first caller use of said telephone line if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said first caller currently has priority for use of said telephone line.

25. The system for regulating use of a telephone line according to claim 9, wherein said communication system comprises a private switching network.

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26. A computer program product for regulating use of a telephone line requested by a plurality of parties, comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting an identity of a first caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for comparing said identity of said first caller with a schedule for at least one other caller requesting use of a telephone line; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for only allowing said first caller use of said telephone line if a schedule for said telephone line indicates that said first caller currently has priority for use of said telephone line.

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